

From: branagan@erols.com
To: microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov
Date: 1/24/02 8:47am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am troubled by the Microsoft-DOJ settlement, as it appears that expediency rather than corrective actions has been the principle concern of the DOJ. It is my opinion that current government computer policy provides preferential treatment for Microsoft. I feel that one way to change Microsoft's behavior and encourage competition is to use the immense purchasing power of the government, at all levels.

I suggest that the DOJ consider banning the sale, use and purchase of Microsoft software and hardware by all federal, state and local governments for an extended period, say 10 years.

I suggest that all contracted products not require the use of Microsoft software. By this I mean that when the government wants to distribute a database on a CDROM, that the viewing of this database require no runtime versions of Microsoft software on that CDROM or in a personal computer.

I also suggest that all data stored at government (all levels) computer sites, all data purchased by all levels of government be stored in generic, non-proprietary, non-Microsoft formats. The use of Microsoft data formats in currently distributed government, such as Access essentially requires the public to purchase a Microsoft product and further solidifies an ever expanding Microsoft monopoly.

Michael F. Branagan
10207 Green Holly Terrace
Silver Spring, MD 20902

mail2web - Check your email from the web at
<http://mail2web.com/> .